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**SPIN-D**  
**NETWORK+**

Sustainable Prevention,  
Innovation and Involvement  
for Dementia

## Welcome to the January 2026 edition of the SPIN-D Network+ Newsletter

Our newsletter this month includes updates on our flexible fund, upcoming events and news across the dementia network plus initiative.



## Congratulations!

The Lewisham Youth Brain Health Project WON under the Collaboration (local) category at the King's College London Engaged Research Awards on 15th January 2026.

Academic partners who are part of the SPIN-D Network and supported the project: Prof Jacqueline Parkes (Northampton), Dr Tomasina Oh (Plymouth), Dr Nicolas Farina (Plymouth), Georgina Charlesworth (UCL).

## Now open – Flexible Fund Second Call

Apply for funding to advance research and involve people with lived experience of dementia in reducing risk, delaying symptoms, and improving care. We are now pleased to launch our second round of flexible funding.

Deadline for applications is **31 March 2026**. Further information including **key dates** and **application guidance** is available on our [website](#).

Last week, we ran a live Q&A webinar with Dementia Researcher. The webinar answered questions about the application process and more. You can [watch the recording on YouTube](#).



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## Upcoming Events

**Spotlight on LGBTQIA+ and dementia: Exploring brain health and addressing inequities**



**LGBTQIA+ and dementia**  
**In-person day event**  
**25<sup>th</sup> February 2026**  
**London EC1**



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Innovations  
in Dementia



**DETERMIND**

**Wednesday, 25 February 2026**

**10:30am – 4pm**

**London, EC1**

**SPIN-D Network Plus, DETERMIND, Innovations in Dementia, and Together in Dementia Everyday (tide)**, are facilitating an in-person day to explore connections between LGBTQIA+ and Dementia. Inviting people with all levels of knowledge and interest including researchers, funders, people with dementia and carers, coordinators, managers, and providers.

This in-person event will take place on Wednesday, 25th Feb 2026, 10:30am to 4:30pm. Refreshments and lunch included. Accessible venue in London, EC1. Accessible format with supported attendance.

Complete the form below to register and save the date in your calendar.

Confirmation of your place and event details will follow.

Numbers are limited to enable discussion and for everyone to contribute.

**REGISTER HERE**

# Save the date: SPIN-D Engaged Partners Forum

**Thursday, 26 February 2026**

**Online**

Inviting people with lived experience of Dementia and their carers, Not for Profit, local dementia support groups and Industry partners. The forum aims to harness the SPIN-D network to identify topics for collaboration, research gaps, and further ways in which we can support each other.

Further details will be shared via email and social media in the coming weeks.

## NHS Research Scotland Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) Event

**Tuesday, 3 March 2026**

**University of Stirling**

SPIN-D members have had a poster accepted and will be attending.

**Poster title:**

**Learning from Four Sides: Meaningful Co-production and Involvement in Research and Partnership Development**

Representing the four sides and attending for SPIN-D are Martin Robertson (SPIN-D Co-applicant / Core Lived Experience Group), Rachael Litherland (Strategic Co-production Partner), Debra Gingell (Public Involvement) and Dr Clare Hammerton (Co-production and Involvement Approach).

Further information about the event is available on the [NHS Research Scotland website](#).

Additional events hosted, attended, or represented by members of the network are listed on the [\*\*SPIN-D Network+ Calendar\*\*](#) on our website.

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# News from across the Dementia Network Plus Initiative

## BRIDGES for Dementia Network+ Launch 5th February 2026

BRIDGES for Dementia Network+ will rethink how technology can help people with dementia live full, independent, and connected lives. During this event, BRIDGES will share their vision for their Network+ and outline upcoming opportunities to get involved. The launch will also provide a valuable chance for researchers, practitioners and members of the general public with an interest in this area to connect and exchange ideas.

This is an **in-person event**, with an option to attend **remotely**.

Find out more and register here:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/bridgesfordementianetwork/1957775>.

## Clinical Research Opportunity into Social prescribing for GP Practices in England



SPLENDID are inviting general practices to take part in a fully funded feasibility trial for the SPLENDID pathway and intervention — a new approach to offering social prescribing to people living with dementia in general practice.

Get involved: SPLENDID Feasibility Study – [Expression of Interest Form – Fill in form](#)

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**SPIN-D Network+** is now one of eight Dementia Network Plus initiatives.

Four networks are jointly funded by the Alzheimer's Society, the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC, part of UK Research and Innovation), and the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR).

**EMPOWER Network+**

**EQUADEM Network+**

**Working with Dementia Network+**

Four networks are jointly funded by the Alzheimer's Society, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC, part of UK Research and Innovation), and the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR).

BRIDGES for Dementia (University of Sheffield)

**CONSOLIDATE (Heriot Watt University)**

**TEDI (Northumbria University)**

**ZeDTech (Imperial College)**



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